

27 removing a requirement that circuit court judges
 28 participate in committee activities of the Conference;
 29 removing a requirement that the Conference operate
 30 according to the Rules of Judicial Administration;
 31 repealing s. 27.50, F.S.; repealing a statutory
 32 provision regarding the qualifications of a public
 33 defender; repealing s. 27.55, F.S.; repealing
 34 provision regarding the compensation of the public
 35 defender and expenditures for office in a newly
 36 created circuit; repealing s. 34.131, F.S.; repealing
 37 a provision that all county courts be considered open
 38 at all times to receive voluntary pleas of guilty;
 39 repealing s. 35.12, F.S.; repealing a statutory
 40 provision that a chief judge be selected in each
 41 district court of appeal; repealing s. 35.13, F.S.;
 42 repealing a statutory provision that three judges
 43 consider every case on appeal; repealing s. 35.19,
 44 F.S.; repealing a statutory provision that the
 45 compensation of district judges be provided by law;
 46 repealing s. 35.21, F.S.; repealing a statutory
 47 provision that each district court of appeal appoint a
 48 clerk; repealing s. 35.25, F.S.; repealing a
 49 requirement that the clerk of a district court of
 50 appeal perform duties as prescribed by the rules of
 51 court; repealing s. 35.27, F.S.; repealing a statutory
 52 provision regarding the compensation of a district

53 court of appeal marshal by law; repealing s. 38.13,
 54 F.S.; repealing a provision regarding replacement of
 55 disqualified judges; amending s. 43.20, F.S.; changing
 56 number of persons on the Judicial Qualifications
 57 Commission to conform to the state constitution;
 58 repealing s. 57.101, F.S.; repealing a provision that
 59 certain costs of the record and copies in the Supreme
 60 Court are not taxed against the losing party;
 61 repealing s. 86.081, F.S.; repealing a provision by
 62 which the court may award costs; repealing s. 92.15,
 63 F.S.; repealing an evidentiary rule regarding evidence
 64 of title to land passing from the United States;
 65 providing an effective date.

66
 67 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

68
 69 Section 1. Section 25.151, Florida Statutes, is repealed.

70 Section 2. Section 25.191, Florida Statutes, is repealed.

71 Section 3. Section 25.211, Florida Statutes, is repealed.

72 Section 4. Section 25.231, Florida Statutes, is repealed.

73 Section 5. Subsection (1) of section 25.241, Florida
 74 Statutes, is repealed.

75 Section 6. Section 25.281, Florida Statutes, is repealed.

76 Section 7. Section 25.351, Florida Statutes, is repealed.

77 Section 8. Section 26.01, Florida Statutes, is repealed.

78 Section 9. Section 26.021, Florida Statutes, is amended to

79 read:

80 26.021 Judicial circuits; judges.—The state is divided
 81 into 20 judicial circuits:

82 (1) The first circuit is composed of Escambia, Okaloosa,
 83 Santa Rosa, and Walton Counties.

84 (2) The second circuit is composed of Leon, Gadsden,
 85 Jefferson, Wakulla, Liberty, and Franklin Counties.

86 (3) The third circuit is composed of Columbia, Dixie,
 87 Hamilton, Lafayette, Madison, Suwannee, and Taylor Counties.

88 (4) The fourth circuit is composed of Clay, Duval, and
 89 Nassau Counties.

90 (5) The fifth circuit is composed of Citrus, Hernando,
 91 Lake, Marion, and Sumter Counties. ~~Two of the circuit judges~~
 92 ~~authorized for the fifth circuit shall reside in either Citrus,~~
 93 ~~Hernando, or Sumter County, and neither of such two judges shall~~
 94 ~~reside in the same county.~~

95 (6) The sixth circuit is composed of Pasco and Pinellas
 96 Counties.

97 (7) The seventh circuit is composed of Flagler, Putnam,
 98 St. Johns, and Volusia Counties. ~~One judge shall reside in~~
 99 ~~Flagler County; two judges shall reside in Putnam County; two~~
 100 ~~judges shall reside in St. Johns County; and three judges shall~~
 101 ~~reside in Volusia County. There shall be no residency~~
 102 ~~requirement for any other judges in the circuit.~~

103 (8) The eighth circuit is composed of Alachua, Baker,
 104 Bradford, Gilchrist, Levy, and Union Counties.

105 (9) The ninth circuit is composed of Orange and Osceola
 106 Counties.

107 (10) The tenth circuit is composed of Hardee, Highlands,
 108 and Polk Counties.

109 (11) The eleventh circuit is composed of Miami-Dade
 110 County.

111 (12) The twelfth circuit is composed of Manatee, Sarasota,
 112 and DeSoto Counties.

113 (13) The thirteenth circuit is composed of Hillsborough
 114 County.

115 (14) The fourteenth circuit is composed of Bay, Calhoun,
 116 Gulf, Holmes, Jackson, and Washington Counties.

117 (15) The fifteenth circuit is composed of Palm Beach
 118 County.

119 (16) The sixteenth circuit is composed of Monroe County.
 120 ~~One judge in the circuit shall reside in the middle or upper~~
 121 ~~Keys. There shall be no residency requirement for any other~~
 122 ~~judge in the circuit.~~

123 (17) The seventeenth circuit is composed of Broward
 124 County.

125 (18) The eighteenth circuit is composed of Brevard and
 126 Seminole Counties.

127 (19) The nineteenth circuit is composed of Indian River,
 128 Martin, Okeechobee, and St. Lucie Counties.

129 (20) The twentieth circuit is composed of Charlotte,
 130 Collier, Glades, Hendry, and Lee Counties.

131 (21) Notwithstanding subsections (1)-(20), the territorial
 132 jurisdiction of a circuit court may be expanded as provided for
 133 in s. 910.03(3).

134
 135 The judicial nominating commission of each circuit, in
 136 submitting nominations for any vacancy in a judgeship, and the
 137 Governor, in filling any vacancy for a judgeship, shall consider
 138 whether the existing judges within the circuit, together with
 139 potential nominees or appointees, reflect the geographic
 140 distribution of the population within the circuit, the
 141 geographic distribution of the caseload within the circuit, the
 142 racial and ethnic diversity of the population within the
 143 circuit, and the geographic distribution of the racial and
 144 ethnic minority population within the circuit.

145 Section 10. Section 26.51, Florida Statutes, is repealed.

146 Section 11. Section 26.55, Florida Statutes, is amended to
 147 read:

148 26.55 Conference of Circuit Judges of Florida; duties and
 149 reports.—

150 (1) There is created and established the Conference of
 151 Circuit Judges of Florida. The conference shall consist of the
 152 active and retired circuit judges of the several judicial
 153 circuits of the state, excluding retired judges practicing law.

154 (2) The conference shall annually elect a chair, whose
 155 duty it shall be to call all meetings and to appoint committees
 156 to effectuate the purposes of the conference. ~~It is declared to~~

157 ~~be an official function of each circuit judge to attend the~~
 158 ~~meetings of the conference. It is also an official function of~~
 159 ~~each circuit judge to participate in the activity of each~~
 160 ~~committee to the membership of which such judge is appointed.~~

161 (3) ~~(a)~~ It is declared to be the responsibility of the
 162 conference to operate according to the Rules of Judicial
 163 Administration of the Florida Supreme Court, which includes:

164 (a)1. Consider and make recommendations concerning the
 165 betterment of the judicial system of the state and its various
 166 parts;

167 (b)2. Consider and make recommendations concerning the
 168 improvement of rules and methods of procedure and practice in
 169 the several courts; and

170 (c)3. Report to the Supreme Court such findings and
 171 recommendations as the conference may have with reference
 172 thereto; ~~and.~~

173 (d)(b) Provide Not less than 60 days before the convening
 174 of the regular session of the Legislature with, the chair of the
 175 conference shall report to the President of the Senate and the
 176 Speaker of the House such recommendations as the conference may
 177 have concerning defects in the laws of this state and such
 178 amendments or additional legislation as the conference may deem
 179 necessary regarding the administration of justice.

180 Section 12. Section 27.50, Florida Statutes, is repealed.

181 Section 13. Section 27.55, Florida Statutes, is repealed.

182 Section 14. Section 34.131, Florida Statutes, is repealed.

183 Section 15. Section 35.12, Florida Statutes, is repealed.

184 Section 16. Section 35.13, Florida Statutes, is repealed.

185 Section 17. Section 35.19, Florida Statutes, is repealed.

186 Section 18. Section 35.21, Florida Statutes, is repealed.

187 Section 19. Section 35.25, Florida Statutes, is repealed.

188 Section 20. Section 35.27, Florida Statutes, is repealed.

189 Section 21. Section 38.13, Florida Statutes, is repealed.

190 Section 22. Subsection (2) of section 43.20, Florida
 191 Statutes, is amended to read:

192 43.20 Judicial Qualifications Commission.—

193 (2) MEMBERSHIP; TERMS.—The commission shall consist of 15
 194 ~~13~~ members. The members of the commission shall serve for terms
 195 of 6 years.

196 Section 23. Section 57.101, Florida Statutes, is repealed.

197 Section 24. Section 86.081, Florida Statutes, is repealed.

198 Section 25. Section 92.15, Florida Statutes, is repealed.

199 Section 26. This act shall take effect July 1, 2014.